



12 Jan 1917

## The Missouri Miner, January 12, 1917

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# THE MISSOURI MINER.

Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, Rolla, Mo.

Vol. 3, No. 17.

Friday, January 12, 1917.

Price 5 Cents.

## What's Wrong with M. S. M?

**AUTHOR'S NOTE:** It has been with quite a little reluctance that the author has decided to publish the following, not because the conditions cited are exaggerated or untrue and not because there is not a possibility of failure to supply the remedy for the ills but chiefly because it appears at first inspection to the presumptuous and somewhat egotistical for one man to force his convictions upon a majority of fellow students, many of whom are far more capable of performing the task. It will be the sincere effort of the author in the articles to come to answer to the first consideration, namely that the promised evils exist—but a word or two upon the second phase is necessary as an apology or explanation.

The author has sincerely and conscientiously endeavored to study the state of student activities here at M. S. M. and has based his conclusions only after discussing the premises with other students, not of the same club or fraternity but at random. Meetings of various school organizations have afforded him an excellent opportunity to hear both sides of current questions, and his presence at the Faculty-Student meeting which discussed and satisfactorily settled the reinstatement of the men who had been suspended, have convinced him that the Faculty are aware of some conditions and unaware of others but are sincerely desirous of doing whatever they can consistent with their position, to prevent or remedy.

The articles to come, and it is the author's hope that the students and Professors of the meeting referred to, will confirm the statement after reading,—will embody many of the subjects touched upon that night. It is hoped also that the Professors and students will read and follow the articles closely—reading with the assurance that no malice nor partiality will be included in them.

If any facts are introduced—they will be true to date and circumstances but the deductions—and the possible cure for the evils—may of course be erroneous—as no man, however sincere, can be correct at all times.

The subject and its consideration will not be "forced"—that is to say, that all protests and criticisms are welcomed and if desired will be given space in the Miner. To understand however and to be just to the writer before condemning him it is asked that such disapprovals or challenges be published after the completion of the articles. If given during the course of the work—they will be appreciated and their contents of protest or suggestion will gladly be brought into the articles themselves. With these ideas in mind, and considering the spirit in which the work is intended—no one should take offense—if they too are honestly desirous of the welfare of M. S. M. and it is the author's hope—that his humble efforts—will accomplish some good, great or small for the institution of which he is proud to be a member.

To any one remembering the apathy of the student body on some occasions, and their extreme and uncontrollable spirit of pep on others, to any one listening to the discussions of students when gathered together away from the portals of Norwood Hall, or to any one overhearing the murmurs and grumbles of men between classes, or after mass meetings, it is more than unreasonable optimism, and even bordering on folly to deny that a spirit of unrest has settled down over M. S. M., and is holding real "pep" in unrelenting talons.

The Student Body is as a giant, shackled fast by fear of precedence, lack of information, prejudice of petty politics, distrust of faculty, and selfishness to personal gains. He is bound hand and foot, and furthermore is gagged by the fear of "getting in bad," so that if he knows of a

remedy for his own ills, he refrains from its use. He is lying beneath the "Sword of Damocles," which is his longed-for degree and credits, and he is afraid that if he struggles, the frail thread will break and end his earthly troubles. So that, we hear only his groans and murmured protests.

Another giant, powerful in might, gazes at his prostrate form, and watches his pains in silence. But can not hear the murmurs nor discern the plea for aid, as he does not approach nor stoop to listen. He is willing to help, perhaps, but he does not see the prostrate form except as a phenomenon characteristic of a land of life, strife and conquest.

He does not know the man, he has never troubled himself to know him, and he tells his self that he would be glad to be a friend to the unfortunate if he were sure he could trust him, and if the victim really desired his aid.

The second giant is the Faculty, who could be and desire to be the friend of the student, but are hesitating, and apparently do not know how to go about it.

If any one denies that there is a spirit of unrest at M. S. M. let him examine more closely the existing conditions, and agitate a few questions concerning school work and grades, certain Professors and courses, athletics, and such. He will then hear the growls referred to, rather than the spoken thought and

Continued on Page Six.



## SENIOR COLUMN.

W. A. Shaw, ex-'17, stopped off at Rolla last Saturday for a short visit while on his way to Deming, Arkansas. "Bill" holds an important position with the Western Coal and Mining Company of St. Louis. At the present time, "Bill" is doing reconnaissance and location work for a new mine and railroad which the Western Coal intends to establish near Deming.

Powell, Elfred, and Gaffney, having tasted the fruits of too much holidays, have been "under the weather" for the past week. It is hoped that we will soon have them in our midst again.

Schiermeyer in library to new instructor in surveying: "Er, er, what's your name? Oh! I see! You are a new freshman, eh? Here, have a Y. M. C. A. handbook. Is there anything I can do for you?"

Dolman, Greenburg, and Brown were in St. Louis last week, taking the U. S. G. S. examination for Geologic Aid. Brown also took the examination for Assistant Geologist. All the boys seem happy, so it is presumed that all passed with flying colors.

In Metallography Laboratory last Friday, our friend, F. Stillman (?), reported "Twins." However, most of the Seniors are from Missouri.

The person, Senior or otherwise, who lost Texas A. & M. pin may have same by applying to Mrs. S. Bentley.

The impossible has happened!!! Woodrow Wilson No. 1 was seen at the lecture Monday night with a GIRL. Further comment is unnecessary,

J. W. Beard, '09, is manager of Los Cerrillos Mining Co., Los Cerrillos, N. Mex.

G. E. Abernathy, '14, is with the Stoddard Mines Co., Stoddard, Ariz.

## Y. M. C. A.

## The Message From Mars.

A very enjoyable evening was spent last Monday at the Y. M. C. A. Lyceum Show at Parker Hall. Altho a lecture is often shunned by many, especially by the students, those who attended were not disappointed.

Owing to new surroundings and entrance of late comers the offering was at first destined to be disliked, but after Mr. Adrian Newin had got into the thing proper and "warmed up" he displayed an appreciated talent and merited hearty applause. His "Message from Mars" was an allegorical story of an egotist and miser, recalling to lovers of Dickens' works the famous Scrooge in "Christmas Carol."

## Basketball Notes.

Just a little more than a week now until we play the first basketball game and incidentally the first victory. In the faces of all the basketball men is the confidence in themselves which means victory. Each night twenty to twenty-five men are out and a stiff practice is gone thru. Capt. Nevin is very enthusiastic over the outlook for the seasons success and if hard luck does not appear on the scene undoubtedly his ambition to captain a winning team will be granted. In practice last week Scott had one of his teeth knocked out but very gamely got rid of it and didn't stop the game. Eames got a nasty fall and as a result has a bad knee.

These are the only two accidents which have happened and let us hope there will be no more.

## Attention, Scientists!

The Library has received from the publishers, a number of copies of "Popular Science Monthly" to be distributed among the students of the School. These magazines will be given to any students who ask for them at the desk in the Library.

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A. F. Truex, M. S. M. '14, now geologist for the Cosden Oil and Gas Co., at Tulsa, Okla., spent last Saturday in Rolla with friends.

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**MUSICAL.**

Under Auspices of M. S. M. Rollamo, by Scott's Orchestra of Twenty Pieces, Parker Hall, Saturday, January 13th. Admission, 25 cents.

**Program.**

- 1 Overture, "Tarquato Tasso." Donzetti.
- "Simple Aven," Thorne.
- 2 Male Quartet, Selected, Messrs. Scruby, Crutcher, Sprigg, Fox.
- 3 "Yankee Patrol," Meachieu.
- 4 "Birds and the Brooks."
- 5 Brass Quartet. "Emmetts Lullaby," Messrs. Gale, Roach, Walter Scott, J. W. Scott.
- 6 "Ghost Dance," Rossiter.
- 7 Mandolin & Guitar.
- 8 Selection, "The Princess Pat," Victor Herbert.
- 9 Male Quartet, Selected.
- 10 March, "Big Ben."

It is largely through the efforts of Mr. Scott, of Rolla's drug store, and by the generous offer of many of the residents and some of the students whose names appear above, that the Rollamo Board is able to give a very entertaining evening next Saturday night. The musical will be well worth while, and considering the fact that such events are becoming rare, it will be a treat indeed, and all townspeople and students should show their appreciation by a crowded house.

The talent is well known, and their names alone should vouch for an enjoyable event. To Mr. Scott too much credit can not be given for the good work he has done to gather together and train the orchestra.

It is suspected that a feature of the program will be the famous Hawaiian selections of the M. S. M. quartette, and if this is the case, we will hear the croning Honolulu melodies to the twang of ukeleles.

The price of admission is so reasonable that no one should have a reason to stay away. Freshmen in particular, who may not be familiar with the talent, are asked to uphold their class, and all other students would do well to follow suit.

**Around The Sun Dial.**

The first bout of the school year between knowledge and student is about over. Dr. McRae, the timekeeper, is ready to sound the gong on the 22nd. The referee is Professor. The outcome is still in doubt, but student will exert all his strength and tricks to down knowledge. Should student be successful, another bout will be arranged on June 23rd.

It is all right to get a "Message from Mars," but what most of us would appreciate just now is a check from home.

The boys taking earthworks are now able to calculate the number of cubic yards necessary for their graves. This may come in handy in about ten days when the grades go in the office.

Wanted: To know who put in the long distance call to a girl in St. Louis; said call costing five samoleons.

The exceptionally large number of quizzes held this last week, and those scheduled for the coming week have caused considerable discussion concerning mucking wages in Arizona.

Now, those, who each day's lessons did prepare, Nor oft in classes caused an empty chair, Need little fear what semester's end may bring, For a reward will surely meet them there.

And we, who did not study when we should, Now find it hard to study when we would; Right now regret the folly of the weeks gone by, And so, would do things different if we could.

T. W. Blake, '14, is plant foreman, Union Carbide Co., Welland, Ont., one of the large calcium carbide manufacturing concerns.

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**THE MISSOURI MINER.**

A weekly paper published by the Students, in the interest of the Alumni, Students and Faculty of the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, Rolla, Mo.

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**SOPHOMORE COLUMN.**

We wonder why there are no Sophs on the streets at night? Is it on account of the exams, or New Years' resolutions?

Ask Brazill what the Student Council at Washington U. did for him?

The Sophomores scored one on the Freshmen by having a much larger representation at yesterday's mass meeting. How about it?

Sophs: Are you thinking what you are going to do March 17th? Don't make the Junior Class do all the work.

Sophs: What do you think about the Student Council? Are you in favor of it? Be at the mass meeting when it comes up. Make your men show their colors.

Look for the Soph banquet.

The Sophomores welcome W. F. Baker and Goodwin. Let's see some pep, fellows.

**Missouri Metallurgical and Chemical Society.**

The Missouri Metallurgical and Chemical Society held its first meeting of the new year last Wednesday evening. Mr. H. Smith Clark was the principal speaker of the evening, taking as his topic, "The Determination of Lead by Molybdate Methods." Mr. Clark presented his subject in a clear and interesting manner, discussing in detail, by means of charts and with the aid of the reflectroscope, the various impurities which enter into the quantitative determination of lead, and which cause difficulty in the molybdate method.

Professor H. T. Mann also gave a little talk on lead, having as his subject, "An Historical Outline of the Molybdate Method."

The meeting was an entire success, and, judging from the amount of "pep" shown, it is evident that the Missouri Metallurgical and Chemical Society is a "permanent fixture" of the School of Mines.

Mr. T. F. Golick will address the Society at its next meeting, on Feb. 13th, on "The Analysis of Cassiterite Ores."

**JUNIOR COLUMN.**

Steam Lab. quiz Monday. All out, boys. Something new.

Murphy caused much disturbance in thermo picture show Monday.

"Vic" Doeling and Zoller have joined the white collar roll. "Something suspicious" about this.

Sherwood left for Cuba Wednesday night, in his special side door Pullman.

All of the Juniors should watch the bulletin board for class meeting announcements, and be at the meetings. The St. Pat's celebration this year has to be the best ever, and to do this, it takes the co-operation of every man.

N. B.—Don't fall behind in

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Regular fussers: Smart, Lawrence, S. Clark, Bardsley, Starkey, Johnnie Morris, Lask, Valentine and Zeuch.



**Mass Meeting.**

Jan. 11, 1917. Senior Class in charge; J. K. Walsh, vice-president, chairman. The meeting started out looking like a miserable failure. This was due to two causes: first, on account of the non-attendance of Juniors and Freshmen, due to exams in geology and chemistry, which could, just as well as not, take place on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday; and, second, on account of the absence of the Senior Class president, H. A. Ambler, and his failure to provide any kind of a program whatsoever. However, in spite of it all, the meeting ended in a brilliant success.

After various discussions by Dr. McRae, Coach Dennie, J. K. Walsh, Brown, Hippard, Stoner, Goldman, Nichols, Brazill and Dawson, it was decided that one of the reasons for the lack of college spirit, and the apparent indifference of the students, was due to the fact that the present Student Council is a failure. It was, therefore, decided to make the Student Council a real, self-governing, representative body, and with this end in view, a committee, consisting of the present Student Council members from the Senior, Junior, Sophomore and Freshman classes, will be appointed to draft a constitution and make all the necessary preparations for a real Student Council. This committee will report in the near future. It is to be hoped that the mass meeting will be better attended when it does report.

**New Instructor in Surveying.**

Mr. R. Stewart Lillard, of Decatur, Tenn., arrived in Rolla last week to assume his newly appointed duties as instructor in surveying. He is to succeed Mr. W. H. Risher.

Mr. Lillard is a graduate from the University of Tennessee with a B. S. in C. E. Class of 1916. He has had extensive practical experience, having worked for

the Santa Fe in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. He is well versed in all things appertaining to civil engineering and undoubtedly will prove himself a valuable man.

Mr. Lillard, M. S. M. welcomes you, and we are glad to have you with us.

**SAFETY FIRST.**

By John H. Carroll.

The piston man in eighty-four,  
Crimped caps between his teeth,  
He's gone; you won't see him no more,  
We're buyin' him a wreath;  
When we said he'd get hurt some day,  
He only laughed and cursed,  
He'd still be walkin' round if he'd  
Remembered "Safety First."

Mike Stark jumped off a movin' train,

Stepped on a pile of steels,  
He lost his footin', down he came,

Fell underneath the wheels.  
They had to cut a leg and arm,  
He's done for now, for good,  
But he'd a-never come to harm  
Had he guarded as he should.

A Cousin Jack named Jimmy Ross

Was samplin' in a raise,  
He, careless, put a board across,  
And said, "I hope she stays,"  
And then away up near the top,  
He loosed a bloody stull.  
It was a ninety six-foot drop—  
He smashed his bloomin' skull.

The raise-man, 'cross in thirty place,

Forgot to holler fire.  
He'd surely got us in the face  
If he'd been three feet higher,  
The cut hole didn't throw much muck,

And so we got away;  
And now we thank our streak of luck,

That we're alive today.

The fellows who've been thru the mill,

A workin' underground,  
Say "Watch yourself," no others will,

They've tried—that's what they've found;  
There's lots of things can happen,

But the commonest and worst,  
Is to get yourself caught nappin'  
And forget that "Safety's First."

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**WHAT'S WRONG WITH M.S.M.**

Continued from Page One.

free and candid expression. Which, of course, brings us to that very important mode of expression, and opportunity to express, namely, Mass Meetings.

**Mass Meetings.**

It is a shame that the mass meetings, especially towards the end of last year, have been so poorly attended. Even the very class who were scheduled to be in charge have represented themselves so miserably by numbers as to put their officers and class men in a ridiculous light. Sometimes the man who is supposed to attend his particular class day has been absent. This happened Oct. 25, when it was the Senior's task to have had charge, and instead of giving an intelligent account of themselves—the man whom they had elected for the job was absent, and had made no preparations whatever. Yesterday witnessed the second offence.

That particular day showed the Freshman Class to be sadly sliced into thirds, with the two-thirds absent.

At subsequent meetings it has been a difficult job to have located the Sophomore Class at all, while Juniors, to be congenial, have followed their example and refrained from attendance as well.

The point is that no one class in particular is sinning, but that many of all classes are doing it, altho by some irony of fate it seems that at each meeting one class shows up worse than the other three.

This fact must have a cause! Here it is: Upon examination it will be discovered that either a quiz has been given at the 9:40 hour which is too long to finish before the mass meeting hour of 10:20, or there is a quiz following at 11:10, which tempts the student to do a little study, and cut the mass meeting.

I believe that the Professor who gives quizzes at these hours on Thursday morning is largely to blame for the miserable mass meetings, and if he is a real Professor, and now sees a possible error in choosing the time for a quiz, he will do something to remedy the evil.

Upon glancing at the schedule, I believe that the courses which are at those hours mentioned have another hour earlier in the week which would answer all quiz purposes just as well. Or, if this solution appears presumptuous in request, if the Professors concerned do not care about regulating their quizzes, it is the opportunity and duty of the other Faculty members to change the mass meeting hour so that these men will not be required to sacrifice themselves.

Next semester would be an admirable time to start upon a different hour. As it is, the 10:20 hour either encourages a student to grind for a quiz at 11:10, or makes him late for 11:10 class, if the mass meeting goes past the regular time. The 11:10 hour seems a good time, as there is no necessity for devoting the time to study, and nearly any day with the exception of Saturday, is good. Monday would "wind up" the week previous, and start a new week but it is too far removed from the end of the coming week, and could not be used as a "Pep" meeting, or rally for athletic events, as the interval would allow the spirit to die.

Thursday seems a good choice, as it allows the mass meeting items to reach the Miner in time for publication.

Friday, likewise, has its arguments, chief among which are that it precedes a football game, and can cover the whole past week. It would even allow the mass meeting results to reach the Miner in time, and constitute real red hot up-to-the-minute news.

Friday at 11:10 seems to be

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**HOP**

Prof. J. W. Barley, wife and daughter, spent the Christmas holidays with relatives at Montgomery City.

Mrs. V. H. McNutt, who has been spending some time with friends in Rolla, left for her home at Claremore, Okla., last Friday.



the logical hour and day. It would be considerate of the Faculty, and appreciated, if they would discuss it among themselves.

We have given two plausible reasons for non-attendance at mass meetings, and the third and most important one is not the Faculty's part, but rather, is owing to the fact that very frequently the meetings are not worth while wasting time over. They have been farces, not prepared in program, ignorant in management, and unproductive of any good. They have often been neither instructive nor entertaining, but even more boring than certain lecture hours, which at least do some good. If it were impossible to change these kinds of affairs, I would strongly recommend that the meetings be abolished, but they can be changed.

Ambler, Clarke, Krause and Johnstone are responsible for their respective classes, and it should be a matter of pride in them to do their task well. If, for any reason, they think that they are incapable of fulfilling their offices as Class Presidents, let them appoint a committee to attend to their mass meetings. At any rate some kind of a program can be arranged. If all announcements were given to the President ahead of time, so that he might call on the right men who have something to say regarding either the Rollamo, Miner, Y. M. C. A., etc., if these announcements were really necessary and not made to kill time, there would be room left for the real mass meeting proper. The President in charge could judge by conference prior to the meeting, whether such announcements need to be lectured on; and if not, he need only to read them off to the students.

It would not be necessary then to call on, say, Coach Denny, un-awares, and force him to talk on a subject that he was not prepared to bring up until the fu-

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ture. If, on the other hand, he has something to say, he should ask for a chance to talk prior to the meeting. In this way such subjects could easily be treated in 10 or 15 minutes unless circumstances are unusual, and there is need of some discussion. In the latter event, voluntary speeches may be made from the house, or men called on.

If there is no talking necessary, some sort of a program should have been arranged ahead of time (by the President or his appointee if he is incompetent, consisting of piano selections by Carson, Spriggs, Crutcher, or songs by Johnson, Fox, Scruby, etc., (and new talent will be found.)

For that matter there is not a student or Professor in the school who would not eagerly listen to Dr. Barley read more of the tales of the Yukon, or the biography of Adam and Eve. Prof. Dean, also could readily duplicate the applause he merited when he picturesquely lectured on Isaac Walton, and graphically caught few suckers as well. Likewise Prof. Daniels' illustrated talk on his experiences in the East was well liked. Prof. Dickerson, too, has more films which can be procured if we but co-operate with him.

In other words, make your representatives fill a program for you, or quit their job, and then you stand by your President and attend your mass meeting. If Ambler, Clarke, Krause or Johnson are doing their best, and you, from their class, do not attend, you are humiliating them and are unworthy of your class. You, too would do well to resign!

I believe that if a mass meeting is a real mass meeting, full of fire and life, and sparkling with energy, and at least instructive or entertaining. Every student in the school, and Professor as well, would look forward to them, and always attend.

To return to the Faculty con-

sideration, as I know it will re-awaken my readers' interest if I appear to be out for scalps that have degrees attached, there are some Professors at school that have never attended a mass meeting this year. I may be in error, and if I am wrong, then I am sorry, but I leave it to my readers to recall if they have ever seen more than three or four Faculty men at a meeting. In justice to some, let it be said that they may be absent now and then, but at least show up occasionally. Dr. McRae, Prof. Dean and Dr. Barley are never absent. Prof. Dickerson has the habit as well, while Prof. Forbes is erratic, but fairly reliable. Profs. Dake and Harris always attend when the mass meeting is well advertised, as in the case of the films on "Asphalt" last time, but are not regular subscribers.

The metallurgy and chemical departments are poorest represented, and it would be fairly safe in conjecture to bet that some of these Profs. would be known by new students only by name. These same Professors have the habit of giving the student a cut if he comes late from a mass meeting.

Knowing these men fairly well I believe they have a sincere reason for not attending, which may consist in the fact that they have 11:10 classes, and must be in the class room before that hour so as to prepare their lectures and blackboards. But, regardless of reasons good or bad, I know for a fact that they would attend, if the mass meetings were really worth while.

There are several new Profs. who would probably feel lost if they wandered into Parker Hall. I believe they are unaware of the mass meeting, or do not realize that they are welcome.

Such, then, are the conditions regarding mass meetings. They are a good thing if not abused. They are at present miserable failures. They can be remedied. It is up to the Student Body and

the Faculty to do something. Will they?

The next article will be entitled "What and Why is the Student Council." Watch for it. Maybe it will express your very ideas.

## ROLLAMO PICTURE SHOW.

### Real Risks Run by "Hell's Hinges" Actors.

#### Escapes From Burning Building are Made Just Ahead of Flames.

Risks taken by players in the production of "Hell's Hinges," the Triangle Kay Bee feature, in which William S. Hart is starred are said to have been greater than in any play ever offered to the public by Producer Thomas H. Ince. In all more than 500 people appeared in the play during the making of the scenes.

In the narrow streets of the Western village—a town which was patterned after the notorious Virginia City of the early seventies—the men and women, some mounted, some on foot, fought and struggled during the battle that raged while the town was burned. Many genuine rescues were made during the fire, which totally destroyed the thirty-five houses and stores in the town during the two hours it raged.

Friday, Jan. 12, Rolla's Theatre.

Miss Beulah Reppenhagen, of 81 Armudel Place, St. Louis, has announced her engagement to P. M. Fahrendorf, ex-'14. The wedding will occur in the near future.

E. L. Beyer, '16, engineer with James Stewart & Co., has been transferred from Glassboro, N. J. to Detroit, Michigan and is working on the erection of a factory building for Studebaker Automobile Co.

R. S. Burg, '16, is with the Miami Copper Co., Miami, Ariz.